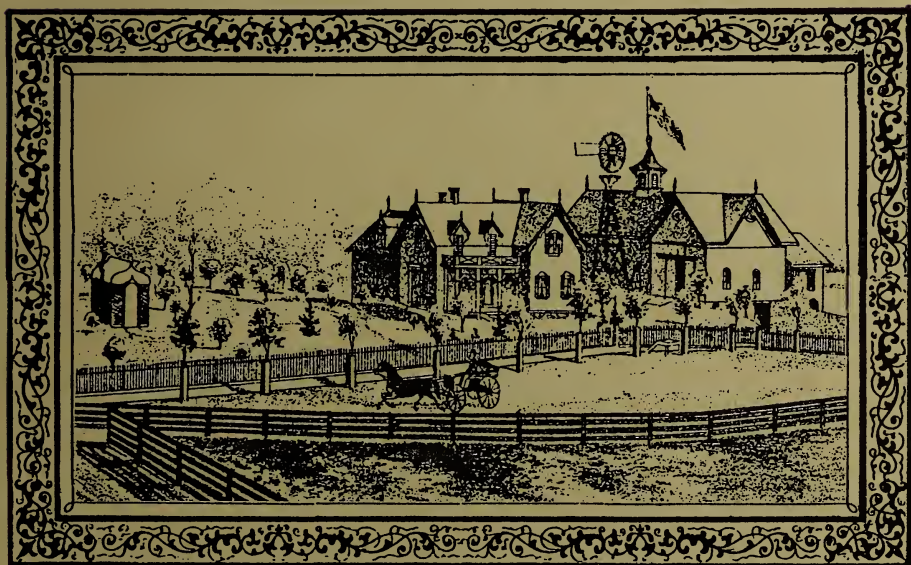


1885 - 1985

# Hart Centennial Landmark Tour

Saturday, July 20, 1985  
2:00 to 5:00 p.m.



Home at 608 Gurney, T.S. Gurney Farm  
taken from a Circa 1882 wood carving

**Sponsored By**  
**The Hart Centennial Committee**



Main					Water
	5 Courtland House				Courtland.
					SLAVE STREET
		6 Water Urick		1 Hart Cong. Church <u>Start Here</u>	Dryden
		Court- house	10 Chrastick- Munger Home		Hart
					Union
		Black- 8 smith Shop	9 S.B. Fuller		

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ANNE STEVEN  
7

Lincoln

Church

LINDA  
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Hanson  
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Klotz

Johnson

Water

Courtland.

SLAVE STREET

Dryden

Hart

Union

Washington

5  
Courtland  
House

6  
Water Urick

Court-  
house

10  
Chrastick-  
Munger Home

Black- 8  
smith  
Shop

9  
S.B.  
Fuller

1  
Hart  
Cong.  
Church  
Start Here

Congregational United Church of Christ  
408 S. State Street



The Congregational Church of Hart was born, first of all, in the minds of a group of Christian people, who, under the inspiration of God visualized the possibility of a Congregational Church in Hart.

On January 29, 1868, this group gathered at the home of Mr. B.J. Beers for the purpose of organizing a Congregational Church. Six charter members became that first church.

From 1879 to 1883 the church was without a regular pastor. In 1883 the church was re-organized and the Rev. R.W. Fletcher was called to be the pastor. It was during the spring of 1885, during his pastorate, that the foundation of the present building was laid. After much delay and indecision, the building was dedicated on August 16, 1887, completely furnished and debt free.

About ten years later, a neat and comfortable parsonage was built. (This is the present Parish House.) "The Church agreed that the pastor of the flock should rightly be as well housed as those to whom he ministers." This parsonage served the church until 1962 when a lovely colonial home on Johnson Street was purchased as the new parsonage.

During the years, the church has been remodeled to include a Chancel area, a lounge and a full basement. New pews were added in 1966 bringing the church to its present structure.



A valuable addition, in the form of the Elizabeth Lincoln Robinson Memorial Building, was given by Dr. W.G. Robinson and family. This is the building which presently is being used as the nursery and kindergarten for the Sunday School.

The church at present time has applied to be included on the State Register of Centennial Buildings.

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Mr. and Mrs. David Hansen  
4 E. Johnson Street

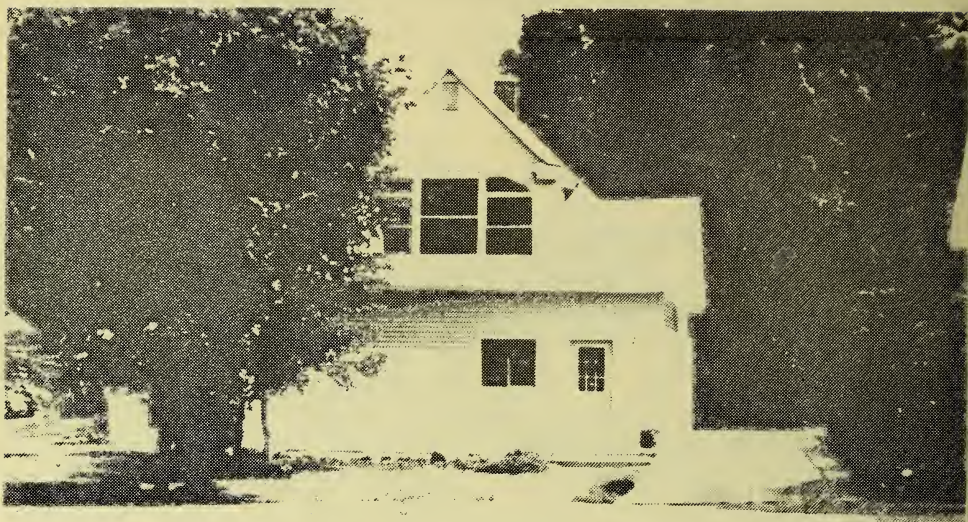


This house was built in 1893 by William C. Bennett. He and his wife Lucy lived here with their daughter Caroline Winefred Bennett and their son Maurice Bennett. "Winnie" was four years old when she lived here until her death at the age of 93. Mr. Bennett owned and operated the Hart Manufacturing Company, located where Merskin & Merskin now stands. All the woodwork and lumber were hand-picked from local timber. The Bennetts moved their company to Zeeland where they are still operating as Bennett Wood Specialties.

The porch was enclosed about 30 years ago to make a sun room.

The kitchen was re-done and the deck added this past winter by the house's present owners David and Leslie Hansen.

Mr. and Mrs. Calvin Klotz  
8 E. Johnson Street



This charming 3 bedroom home was built in 1893 by William C. Bennett for his mother-in-law.

This older home features oak and maple woodwork throughout the home with an open stairway.

The present owners are Calvin and Diane Klotz.



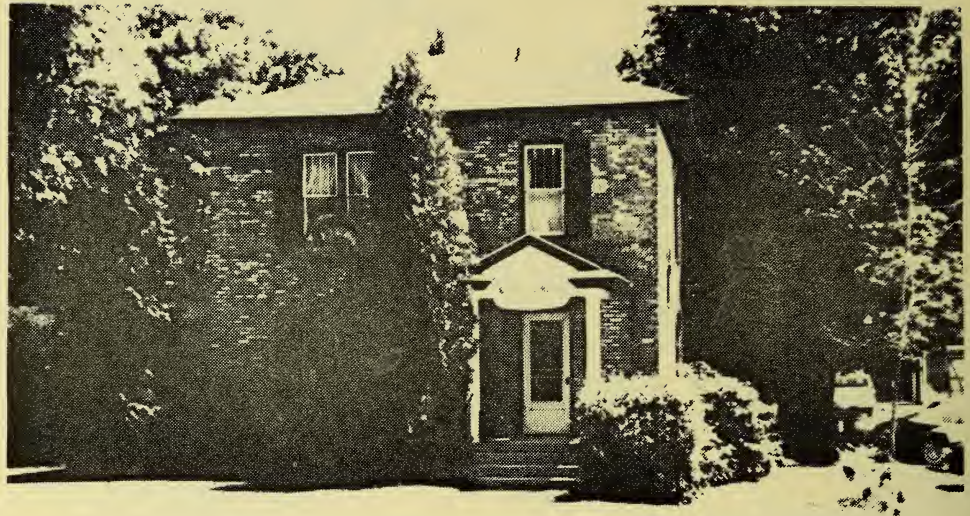
Linda Lorenz  
103 Courtland Street



George Bates had this house built in 1904. Later, bills were found in a local hardware store for the lumber, glass, and fancy work that all came from Grand Rapids. The cost of this home in 1904 was approximately \$12,000. Several families have lived here and enjoyed the beauty of this home.

Linda Lorenz purchased this home in April of 1985.

COURTLAND HOUSE  
16 Courtland



The house at 16 Courtland Street is celebrating its approximate 100th birthday along with Hart.

The first known owners of the house were Charles and Carrie Wigton Gurney. Charles, believed to be the nephew of T.S. Gurney, was a teacher, lawyer, drug store owner, County Clerk, and also a part owner in the Wigton-Gurney Roller Mill. Actually, it was Carrie Wigton who owned the property as well as several other blocks in the Wigton-Gurney addition.

The house was sold about 1920 to Mr. and Mrs. Edward LeFevre. After Mrs. LeFevre's death, Edward presumably moved to Greenville and in 1928 sold the house to Mr. and Mrs. Fred Kokx, who then moved from their apartment above Mr. Kokx's meat market on State Street. There they raised their daughters, Phyllis and Marjorie ("Bobby" Stover), and there Mrs. Kokx lived alone for several years after her husband's death. In April of this year the house was purchased by Barbara Burmeister for use as an antiques and crafts shop to be known as Courtland House, named for the street on which it has sat for a century.



Mr. and Mrs. Walter Urick  
214 Washington Street



The land where the law office of Urick and Monton now stands was first purchased from the United States Government in 1859 by Elbridge C. Farmer. It changed hands about 9 times until in 1908 when it was purchased by Dr. John Nicholson and his wife Rossie. He practiced medicine from the rooms on the west side of the house and many people still remember when he was their doctor. In 1967 Walter Urick became the owner and the house was primarily a residence for the next 8 years. In 1975 Mr. Urick converted it entirely into an office building where he and Anthony Monton practice law. Some changes have been made, but care was taken to maintain the original design and character of the house.

The Stevens Home  
608 Gurney



T.S. Gurney came to Hart in 1866. He made Hart his home and commenced the practice of law with the abstract business of loaning money. He was County Clerk, Register of Deeds and Township Clerk. He married Helen Bradly in 1862. They had 2 children, Anna and John.

His house was built soon after they arrived here, and still has most of the original windows and doors. The barn architecture is New England style. T.S. Gurney farmed many acres of fruit and cattle.

This wood-carved drawing was made around 1882. The Dr. Henry Stevens family moved in around 1940 and Mrs. Anne Stevens still resides there.



Mr. and Mrs. S.B. Fuller  
411 Lincoln Street



The age of this home has not been established. This house was the home of Bob Munger at one time. The Fullers have resided here for 24 years.



## Union Street



Mr. Joseph C. Schaner built the foundation for the Blacksmith Shop in the early 1900's. The addition on the South side was built for a wagon and woodworking shop. Later they built the second story and a rear addition for a livery stable. The front section of the upstairs was made into living quarters for Art Wicks and his son Cliff. They were in partnership with this business, and Cliff took over after the death of his father. In September, 1943 Chris Wilde took over the Blacksmith Shop and continued to give the service of smithing for 24 years. Mr. Wilde sold in June, 1979 to Harold Nelson and Scott Langton. Today Mr. Nelson is still using the original 1900 equipment and performing the craft of smithing.

The location of this blacksmith shop may, in the future, be referred to as part of the historic district.

PRESENT HOME OF  
THE OCEANA COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY HEADQUARTERS



Walking into the Chadwick-Munger House in Hart, one feels as if they are traveling back in time...back 100 years to the time when Hart was in it's infancy.

The Oceana County Historical Society can be thanked for this. The Chadwick-Munger house is now the headquarters for the historical society.

All around the house are things of the past from the chairs to clothes to letters to pictures. The house was built in 1893 by Dr. Harvey Chadwick, who came to Hart in 1866. Dr. Chadwick sold the house to Dr. Louis Munger, then moved to Grand Rapids.

The original stonework is still on the house, the stones coming from the Hart area. Even parts of the woodwork in the house are originals.

This building is not an official Tour Home, but you are welcome to stop by and see what your local Historical Society and Genealogical Chapter are doing to preserve Oceana History.

All information contained in these pages are subject to change when and if more information is available.



# NOTES



## SPECIAL THANKS TO

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Ruth Ann Kelley

Chairwoman of Tour

Jan Nass

Tour Assistant

Ida Hetland

Typist

All the homeowners and businessmen and women who so graciously shared their homes and buildings with the public.

### VOLUNTEER HOSTESSES:

Ella Van Agtmael  
Dorothy Cutter  
Carrie Alvesteffer  
Linda Stevens

### Donations of Cookies:

North Oceana Girl Scouts & Hart Boy Scouts.

THE COURTLAND HOUSE for loan of costumes.

Rose Marie Schober, Larry and Linda Stevens  
for loan of flowers and arrangements.

